

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

DRAFTED BY: EUR/CE:LHEICHLER

APPROVED BY: EUR:AHUGHES

S/S:SESTEINER

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P 102328Z DEC 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 20742 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 09 DEC 76

QUOTE SECRET BONN 20742

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, PINT, GW, UR

SUBJECT: FURTHER FDP VIEWS ON SPD CONTACTS WITH MOSCOW

REF: BONN 20675

1. KLAUS KINKEL, FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S
ASSISTANT, TODAY TOLD THE POLITICAL
COUNSELOR THAT GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY WOULD CONTINUE
ALONG THE SAME LINES AS BEFORE AND THAT IT WOULD BE
CONDUCTED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND HIS MINISTRY
RATHER THAN BY THE SPD.

2. KINKEL SAID THE SPD-FDP COALITION DISCUSSIONS WERE
VIRTUALLY CONCLUDED. THEY HAD BEEN DIFFICULT, BUT
THE PRINCIPAL DIFFICULTIES HAD BEEN IN DOMESTIC RATHER
THAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE PROCEDURE THAT HAD BEEN
FOLLOWED WAS FOR EACH MINISTER, OF WHATEVER PARTY, TO
PRESENT THE PROGRAM OF HIS MINISTRY. THE NEGOTIATORS

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THEN WOULD DISCUSS THAT PROGRAM, AMEND IT AS APPROPRIATE,

AND PROCEED TO OTHER TOPICS. IN THE CASE OF THE SPD-FDP NEGOTIATIONS ON FOREIGN POLICY, JUST COMPLETED, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY--NOT THE SPD--HAD PRESENTED THE PROGRAM AND THE PAPERS IT HAD PRESENTED WERE ESSENTIALLY ACCEPTED BY THE COALITION.

3. REFERRING TO THE WILLY BRANDT INTERVIEW IN TODAY'S ANZEIGER (REPORTED SEPARATELY), KINKEL SAID NO SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE APPEARANCE OF THIS ARTICLE 24 HOURS AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE COALITION NEGOTIATIONS ON FOREIGN POLICY. HE SAID BRANDT'S IDEAS, WHERE THEY DIVERGED FROM ESTABLISHED POLICY, SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS A NEW GERMAN DEPARTURE. HE SAID THAT BOTH COALITION PARTIES WERE A LITTLE UNHAPPY ABOUT THE DEAD END IN WHICH GERMAN OSTPOLITIK APPEARED TO BE TRAPPED. UNDOUBTEDLY, HE THOUGHT, EFFORTS WOULD BE MADE TO EXPLORE NEW AVENUES FOR AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED, SUCH DIFFERENCES AS EXISTED BETWEEN THE COALITION PARTNERS WERE DIFFERENCES OF NUANCE AND NOT DIFFERENCES OF PRINCIPLE. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT BAHR, LACKING AN APPROPRIATE STAFF, COULD NOT REALLY HANDLE FOREIGN POLICY.

4. KINKEL REITERATED WHAT VERHEUGEN HAD SAID (REFTEL) TO THE EFFECT THAT GENSCHER WOULD TAKE THE FDP OUT OF THE COALITION IF SCHMIDT AND BRANDT WERE TO BEGIN CONDUCTING A FOREIGN POLICY THAT WAS INCOMPATIBLE WITH GENSCHER'S IDEAS. HE SAID IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE SPD COULD NOT FIND A COALITION PARTNER WHO WOULD BE MORE AMENABLE THAN THE FDP TO ITS IDEAS ON OSTPOLITIK.

5. KINKEL INDICATED THAT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOVIET AMBASSADOR FALIN AND GENSCHER CONTINUE POOR, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN OSTPOLITIK, AND THAT FALIN WOULD PROBABLY SOON LEAVE BONN. HE DID NOT INDICATE WHO MIGHT REPLACE FALIN.

6. AS FOR THE BREZHNEV VISIT PLANS, KINKEL SAID IDEAS
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FOR THE VISIT WERE NOW BEING DISCUSSED BUT OBVIOUSLY NO CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS COULD BE PUT FORTH BEFORE THE COALITION NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. HE WAS NOT SURE WHAT KIND OF AGREEMENTS COULD BE REACHED. HE BELIEVED THAT GENSCHER WOULD WANT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE THREE FRG-SOVIET ACCORDS THAT WERE BEING HELD UP BECAUSE OF THE DISPUTE ABOUT INCLUDING BERLIN. HOWEVER, HE OBSERVED, ONE THING THAT WAS CERTAIN WAS

THAT GENSCHER WOULD NOT SIGN ANY OF THE THREE ACCORDS
UNLESS SOME PROVISION FOR BERLIN COULD BE MADE. HE
WOULD RATHER HAVE NO AGREEMENTS THAN A BAD BERLIN
CLAUSE, THOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT LACK OF A BERLIN
CLAUSE MIGHT, OVER TIME, ALSO HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT
ON THE POSITION OF THE CITY AND ON ITS TIES TO THE FRG.
STOESSEL

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, COALITION GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, PARTY ALLIANCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE301169
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/CE:LHEICHLER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760457-0260
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761252/aaaabsws.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 BONN 20675
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER FDP VIEWS ON SPD CONTACTS WITH MOSCOW
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, PINT, GE, UR
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006